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EXAMINER

SIPPLE IV, EDWARD C

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4178

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/619,493	Applicant(s) AKIYAMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Edward C. Sipple IV	Art Unit 4178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/16/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. **Claim 2** is objected to because of the following informality: Applicant referred to the second system as the first system.

Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informality: The word “demodulating” should be changed to –demodulates–. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-9** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946).

For **Claim 1** Flickner teaches:

A receiver (Figure 6 Element 106) comprising:

an input unit capable of receiving a first signal and a second signal (Fig. 7 Elem. 168), said first signal being a signal of a broadcast of a first system (The RF B-band, see Paragraph [0043] Lines 7-10), and second signal being a signal of a broadcast of a second system and including additional information (The RF

A band, see Paragraph [0040] Lines 7-12, note A-band supports the DOCSIS standard);

a primary channel selector which selects channels for said received first and second signals (Fig. 6 Elem. 132)

a secondary channel selector which selects a channel for an additional information signal included in said received second signal (Fig. 6 Elem. 124); and

a distributor which distributes said received first and second signals to said primary channel selector/demodulator and said secondary channel selector/demodulator (Fig. 6 Elem. 118); wherein:

when said first signal is received by said input unit, said received first signal is input to said primary channel selector/demodulator without being passed through said distributor (Elem. 168 receiving RF-A and RF-B as input and selecting between Elements 113 and 118 as outputs); and

when said second signal is received by said input unit, said received second signal is distributed by said distributor such that it is input to both said primary channel selector/demodulator and said secondary channel selector/demodulator (Elem. 168 receiving RF-A and RF-B as input and selecting between Elements 113 and 118 as outputs).

a tuner may perform other signal processing (Paragraph [0034] Lines 5-9), and receivers generally contain demodulators (Paragraph [0008] Lines 1-3)

Flickner does not explicitly teach:

(Element 132) is also demodulator that demodulates said received first and second signals; and

(Element 124) is also a demodulator that demodulates said additional information signal

Knight teaches:

a combined tuner & demodulator module (Fig. 1 Elem. 11 and Col. 1 Lines 60-65)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace each of the tuner modules (Elements 124 and 132) as taught by Flickner, with the combined tuner/demodulator taught by Knight. The motivation would have been to demodulate said first and second signals and said additional information signal.

For **Claim 2** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

said broadcast of said first system comprises a terrestrial broadcast modulated in accordance with an 8 VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 12-24); and

said broadcast of said second system comprises a CATV broadcast modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 18-24).

For **Claim 5** as discussed in Claim 2 Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

said additional information includes encryption information on a CATV

broadcast signal (Flickner, Paragraph [0030] Lines 18-20, note the DOCSIS standard facilitates the transmission of https encrypted internet data).

For **Claim 7** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

said input unit (Flickner, Fig. 7 Elem. 168) comprises a switch which switches between said distributor and said primary channel selector/demodulator so as to selectively input a signal received by said input unit to said distributor and said primary channel selector (Flickner, Elem. 168 receiving RF-A and RF-B as input and selecting between Elements 113 and 118 as outputs).

For **Claim 8** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

a switch which switches between an input signal from said input unit and a signal from said distributor so as to input one or the other signal to said primary channel selector/demodulator (Flickner, Fig. 6 Elem. 130).

For **Claim 9** as discussed in Claim 2 Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

said input unit includes a first input unit (Flickner, Fig. 6 Elem. 112) and a second input unit (Flickner, Fig. 6 Elem. 110);

a broadcast signal received by said first input unit is input to said primary channel selector/demodulator (Flickner, Fig. 6 Elements 112,113,130 and 132); and a CATV broadcast signal received by said second input unit is input to said distributor (Flickner, Fig. 6 Elements 110, 111,114 and118).

Flickner in view of Knight does not teach:

a terrestrial broadcast signal received by said first input unit is input to said primary channel selector/demodulator

Official notice is taken that it's well known to have a receiver that receives a terrestrial broadcast signal.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Flickner in view of Knight to have a terrestrial receiver, i.e. a terrestrial tuner integrated with Flickner in view of Knight's receiver, so as to provide additional programming from a terrestrial broadcast to a user.

3. **Claims 3 and 4** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946) further in view of Strolle (U.S. Patent 6,005,640).

For **Claim 3** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

modulation techniques known to one of ordinary skill in the art include QAM and 8 VSB (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 15-24).

Flickner in view of Knight does not teach:

said primary channel selector/demodulator includes a demodulation circuit capable of demodulating both a terrestrial broadcast signal modulated in accordance with an 8 VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme and a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme.

Strolle teaches:

a demodulator capable of demodulating both a terrestrial broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme and a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme (Fig. 1 Elem. 118 with Col. 2 Line 67 and Col. 3 Lines 1-7; and Col. 4 Lines 13-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the combined demodulator (Fig. 1 Elem. 118) as taught by Strolle within the primary channel selector/demodulator unit taught by Flickner in view of Knight. The motivation would have been to be able to demodulate both terrestrial and CATV digitally encoded signals.

For **Claim 4** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

modulation techniques known to one of ordinary skill in the art include QAM and 8 VSB (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 15-24).

Flickner in view of Knight does not teach:

said primary channel selector/demodulator includes a first demodulation circuit for demodulating a terrestrial broadcast signal demodulated in accordance with an 8 VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme and a second demodulation circuit for demodulating a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme.

Strolle teaches:

said primary channel selector/demodulator includes a first demodulation

circuit for demodulating a terrestrial broadcast signal demodulated in accordance with an VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme (Fig. 2 Elem. 206, with Col. 4 Lines 55-58) and a second demodulation circuit for demodulating a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme (Fig. 2 Elem. 202, with Col. 4 Lines 25-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the first and second demodulation circuits as taught by Strolle within the primary channel selector/demodulator taught by Flickner in view of Knight. The motivation would have been to bypass circuitry that is specific to a particular encoding scheme (See Strolle Col. 4 Lines 55-59).

4. **Claim 6** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946) further in view of Hailey (U.S. Patent 5,502,496).

For **Claim 6** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

QPSK is a well known digital modulation scheme for use in CATV Networks (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 12-24).

Flickner in view of Knight does not teach:

said secondary channel selector/demodulator includes a QPSK demodulator for demodulating said additional information

Hailey teaches:

A QPSK demodulator circuit (Fig. 1 Elem. 1503, with Col. 3 Lines 7-10)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the QPSK demodulator circuit taught by Hailey within the secondary channel selector/demodulator taught by Flickner in view of Knight. The motivation would have been to enable the secondary channel selector/demodulator to demodulate information encoded using the well known QPSK scheme (See Flickner Paragraph [0028] Lines 12-24).

5. **Claim 10** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946) further in view of Levandowski (U.S. Patent 6,704,060).

For **Claim 10** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

said primary channel selector/demodulator includes:

a first primary channel selector/demodulator which selects a channel for said first signal and demodulates said-first signal (Flickner, Fig. 6 Elem 132)

Flickner in view of Knight does not teach:

a second primary channel selector/demodulator which selects a channel for said second signal and demodulates said second signal.

Levandowski teaches:

a second primary channel selector/demodulator which selects a channel for said second signal and demodulates said second signal (Fig. 3 Elem. 320,

with Col. 4 Lines 33-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the second selector/demodulator as taught by Levandowski within the primary channel selector/demodulator as taught by Flickner in view of Knight. The motivation would have been to create a receiver capable of receiving two independent signals (See Levandowski Col. 1 Lines 51-55).

6. **Claims 11 and 12** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946) further in view of Song (U.S. Patent 5,760,842).

For **Claim 11** as discussed in independent Claim 1, Flickner in view of Knight further teaches:

the receiver as claimed in Claim 1, and a display for decoding a signal demodulated by said receiver and displaying it as video (Flickner, Fig. 7 Elem. 172),

a channel for said demodulated signal being selected by said receiver (receivers are well known to select channels, see Flickner Paragraph [0027] Lines 9-14).

Flickner in view of Knight does not teach:

a video display device comprising:

the receiver as claimed in Claim 1

Song teaches:

a video display device comprising a receiver (Fig. 1 Elements 11 and 19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the video display device (Flickner, fig. 7 Elem. 172) within the receiver taught by Flickner in view of Knight, as taught by Song. The motivation would have been to incorporate the complete television viewing apparatus within a single unit.

For **Claim 12** as discussed in Claim 11, Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Song further teach:

said video display device identifies a broadcast system through user operation or automatically and indicates it on said display (Song, Col. 1 Lines 46-55; with Col. 2 Lines 25-28 and Table 2, note the multiple displayed input sources in Table 2).

7. **Claim 13, 14 and 17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946), further in view of Paik (U.S. Patent 4,926,477).

For **Claim 13** Flickner teaches:

a receiver (Fig. 5):

capable of receiving a first signal and a second signal (Fig. 5 Elements 80 and 82), said first signal being a signal of a broadcast of a first system (The RF B-band, see Paragraph [0040] Lines 7-13), said second signal being a signal of a broadcast of a second system and including additional information (The RF

A-band, see Paragraph [0040] Lines 7-12, note A-band supports the DOCSIS standard) comprising;

- a primary channel selector which selects channels for said received first and second signals (Fig. 5 Elem. 102)

- a secondary channel selector which selects a channel for an additional information signal included in said received second signal (Fig. 5 Elem. 92);

- a branch circuit which distributes said received first and second signals to said primary channel selector/demodulator and said secondary channel selector/demodulator (Fig. 5 Elem. 86, with Paragraph [0041]);

- a tuner may perform other signal processing (Paragraph [0034] Lines 5-9), and receivers generally contain demodulators (Paragraph [0008] Lines 1-3)

Flickner does not explicitly teach:

- (Element 102) is also demodulator that demodulates said received first and second signals; and

- (Element 92) is also a demodulator that demodulates said additional information signal

Knight teaches:

- a combined tuner & demodulator module (Fig. 1 Elem. 11 and Col. 1 Lines 60-65)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace each of the tuner modules (Elements 92 and

102) as taught by Flickner, with the combined tuner/demodulator taught by Knight. The motivation would have been to demodulate said first and second signals and said additional information signal.

Flickner in view of Knight does not expressly teach:

wherein when said first signal or said second signal is received, said branch circuit distributes it to said primary channel selector/demodulator and said secondary channel selector/demodulator such that power of a signal input to said primary channel selector/demodulator is larger than power of a signal input to said secondary channel selector/demodulator.

Paik teaches:

a power splitter which receives a CATV signal and provides an uneven split, such that most of the power is split in a particular direction (Fig. 1 Elem. 12, with Col. 2 Lines 60-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the power splitter taught by Flickner (Fig. 5 Elem. 86) with the uneven power splitter taught by Paik (Fig. 1 Elem. 12) and subsequently distribute the signal such that the power of a signal input to said primary channel selector/demodulator is larger than power of a signal input to said secondary channel selector/demodulator. The motivation would have been to conserve signal strength by not sending more signal strength than what is required by a device downstream of the power splitter.

For **Claim 14** as discussed in independent Claim 13, Flickner in view of Knight, further in view of Paik further teaches:

said broadcast of said first system comprises a terrestrial broadcast modulated in accordance with an 8 VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 12-24); and

said broadcast of said second system comprises a CATV broadcast modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 18-24).

For **Claim 17** as discussed in Claim 14 Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik further teaches:

said additional information includes encryption information on a CATV broadcast signal (Flickner, Paragraph [0030] Lines 18-20, note the DOCSIS standard facilitates the transmission of https encrypted internet data).

8. **Claims 15 and 16** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946) further in view of Paik (U.S. Patent 4,926,477) further in view of Strolle (U.S. Patent 6,005,640).

For **Claim 15** as discussed in independent Claim 13, Flickner in view of Knight, further in view of Paik further teaches:

modulation techniques known to one of ordinary skill in the art include QAM and 8 VSB (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 15-24).

Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik does not teach:

said primary channel selector/demodulator includes a demodulation circuit capable of demodulating both a terrestrial broadcast signal modulated in accordance with an 8 VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme and a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme.

Strolle teaches:

a demodulator capable of demodulating both a terrestrial broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme and a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme (Fig. 1 Elem. 118 with Col. 2 Line 67 and Col. 3 Lines 1-7; and Col. 4 Lines 13-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the combined demodulator (Fig. 1 Elem. 118) as taught by Strolle within the primary channel selector/demodulator unit taught by Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik. The motivation would have been to be able to demodulate both terrestrial and CATV digitally encoded signals.

For **Claim 16** as discussed in independent Claim 13, Flickner in view of Knight, further in view of Paik further teaches:

modulation techniques known to one of ordinary skill in the art include QAM and 8 VSB (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 15-24).

Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik does not teach:

said primary channel selector/demodulator includes a first demodulation circuit for demodulating a terrestrial broadcast signal demodulated in accordance with an 8 VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme and a second demodulation circuit

for demodulating a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme.

Strolle teaches:

said primary channel selector/demodulator includes a first demodulation circuit for demodulating a terrestrial broadcast signal demodulated in accordance with an VSB scheme or an OFDM scheme (Fig. 2 Elem. 206, with Col. 4 Lines 55-58) and a second demodulation circuit for demodulating a CATV broadcast signal modulated in accordance with a QAM scheme (Fig. 2 Elem. 202, with Col. 4 Lines 25-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the first and second demodulation circuits as taught by Strolle within the primary channel selector/demodulator taught by Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik. The motivation would have been to bypass circuitry that is specific to a particular encoding scheme (See Strolle Col. 4 Lines 55-59).

9. **Claim 18** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946) further in view of Paik (U.S. Patent 4,926,477) further in view of Hailey (U.S. Patent 5,502,496).

For **Claim 18** as discussed in independent Claim 13, Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik further teaches:

QPSK is a well known digital modulation scheme for use in CATV

Networks (Flickner, Paragraph [0028] Lines 12-24).

Flickner in view of Knight does not teach:

said secondary channel selector/demodulator includes a QPSK
demodulator for demodulating said additional information

Hailey teaches:

A QPSK demodulator circuit (Fig. 1 Elem. 1503, with Col. 3 Lines 7-10)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the QPSK demodulator circuit taught by Hailey within the secondary channel selector/demodulator taught by Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik. The motivation would have been to enable the secondary channel selector/demodulator to demodulate information encoded using the well known QPSK scheme (See Flickner Paragraph [0028] Lines 12-24).

10. **Claims 19 and 20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickner (U.S. Application Publication 2001/0037512) in view of Knight (U.S. Patent 4,405,946) further in view of Paik (U.S. Patent 4,926,477) further in view of Song (U.S. Patent 5,760,842).

For **Claim 19** as discussed in independent Claim 13, Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik further teach:

the receiver as claimed in Claim 13, and a display for decoding a signal
demodulated by said receiver and displaying it as video (Flickner, Fig. 7 Elem.

172)

a channel for said demodulated signal being selected by said receiver

(receivers are well known to select channels, see Flickner Paragraph [0027]
Lines 9-14).

Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik does not teach:

a video display device comprising:

the receiver as claimed in Claim 13

Song teaches:

a video display device comprising a receiver (Fig. 1 Elements 11 and 19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the video display device (Flickner, Fig. 7 Elem. 172) within the receiver taught by Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik, as taught by Song. The motivation would have been to incorporate the complete television viewing apparatus within a single unit.

For **Claim 20** as discussed in Claim 19, Flickner in view of Knight further in view of Paik further in view of Song further teach:

said video display device identifies a broadcast system through user operation or automatically and indicates it on said display (Song, Col. 1 Lines 46-55; with Col. 2 Lines 25-28 and Table 2, note the multiple displayed input sources in Table 2).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward C. Sipple IV whose telephone number is 571 270 3414. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5 EST 5/4/9 schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hai Tran can be reached on 571 272 7305. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ES
12/05/2007

/Hai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4178